

G.R.S. IX-5]

Previous references.

(1923-24)

File No. 135-23

Serial Nos. 1-7

Later references.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos.

1-7

Part B for

March 23

SUBJECT

Formation of a Renovation Committee
for inspecting the Temples at Belur, Halebid &
Somnathpur & submit estimate for their
repairs

Go to 1199-204 / Mar 135-23-7
8.8.3.24

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

1 May

NOTES.

File No 176-415

FILE HLADING

Appointment of a Renovation Committee for inspection and setting forth definitely the lines on which the further renovation of the temples at Belur, Halebid & Channarayana should be carried out

From

No.	Dated		Received
Diary No.	Enclos	Spate Copies	Serial No.

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

NOTES AND ORDERS.

Serial
No.

D. 498

From the Muz: Comr., letter no. C. 1138 of 22-23
of 20-10-23.

Forwards copy of letter no. C. 200 of 18-10-23
from the Bl: Engr for Roads & Buildings
suggesting the appointment of a ^{Renovation} committee
of Engrs & the Director of Archaeological
Researches & his Architectural Asst to
inspect the temples of Belur, Halebid etc.
and recommends the same.

D 497 ~~(*)~~ * The Bl: Engr has also sent to Govt
a copy of his letter no. 200 of 18-10-23
addressed to the Muz: Comr.

7

From the Muz: Comr., letter no. C. 1138
of 22-23
of 26-10-23.

Forwards copy of letter no. C. 234 of 24/10/23
recd from the Bl: Engr suggesting that
the vice chancellor of the Mysore Uni-
versity may be apptd a member of
the Renovation Committee; & states
that as already stated the personnel
of the committee may be finally settled
after the appointment of the committee
is approved by Govt.

7(*)

The Bl: Engr has also forwarded to
Govt a copy of his letter no. 234 of 24/10/23
addressed to the Muz: Comr.

Serial
No.

As ordered by the member of Council in para 50 of the office-note in Muz: File 25-23 re renovation etc of ~~the~~ Sri Gheemathesavaswami temple at Belur, a separate file has been opened, and a draft is subd for approval.

2 The member's minute is now below for reference.

Appointment of a Renovation Committee

" This is a general question, as the Committee is expected to deal not only with the Belur and Halebid temples to which the file relates, but also other temples such as Somanathpur, which are of architectural and archaic interest. This should be dealt with in a separate file and subd for orders and not mixed up the present file. So far as the Belur temple is concerned, the Muz: Com: may be asked to furnish information without delay regarding the works to be now carried out in accordance with the estimates already sanctioned."

Muzrai
Secretariat

Muz. File No. 135 of 1923.

Serial
No.

The other file
Muz 25-23
is separately
in-2.

3 Draft letter to M.C. subd.

88
8/11/23 B.L.
8/11/23

4. *[Signature]*
13/11/23

4 To The Muz. Commr., No. 697 D. 16. 11. 23.
State that the above subject is a general ques-
tion & shd be separately dealt with, and, as regard
repairs to the Belur Temple, requests that inf. may
be furnished as to the works to be man-
aged out in acc. with the estimates &
ready sanction.

[Signature]

8 Not issued, as
reply was recd.
on 8.1.24.

5 Draft reminder subd.

88
3.1.24 B.L.

6. Is the Chief Eng^r asked
to submit a comprehensive estimate for
repairs, in connection with the savings of
the Muz Interest on General Muzrai Fund? Is
this term a separate subject?

7 Yes, a ~~letter~~ ^{letter} has been issued to the
Ch Eng^r to submit an est for repairs of the
Temple; the Comd^t has been subd to the ^{Ch Eng^r}

B.L.
7.1.24

Sl no 5 has been
noted upon on
the receipt
itself -

Serial
No.

56

From the Muz. Comd., letter no C 1138 of 22nd 3
37.1.24.

Forwards copy of bh. Engr's letter no. B
3689 of 31.12.23 re ^{state} the present of the Belur
Halebid & Somanathapur temples & the
appointment of a committee, as already
suggested, to decide upon the nature of
work that is to be done in the future -

8. It will be seen from the bh. Engr's
letter that no urgent works are called
for to any of the above temples & that a
~~committee~~ the formation of a Committee
to consider the question is necessary -

9 The M.C reports that the estimates
for Rs 13581 & Rs 5415 sanctioned previously
for the repairs of the Belur temple have
been worked out

Subd for orders.

10. The bh. Engr. very strongly urges
the necessity for the formation of a
Committee to decide the nature and
extent of repairs to be done to the temples
in question and the Muz. Comd. supports
it.

For orders.

please see up the
letter mentioned

17.1.24

17.1.24

WD 0561 - GPR - 3750
" Subd in the file 15 Members
minik (Extract in page 3).

2nd member please see

17.1.24



468
78.1.24

NOTE—Contn. sheet

Muzrai
Secretariat

Muz. File No.

135

of 1923.

Serial
No.

12. The following recorded collections, which form previous refces and put up for refce in Muz: file 25-23 re revision of ^{scale} of the Belur temple and grant of lands there to, are put up -

- 1) Muz 201-20-(1-10) ✓
- 2) " 508-18-(1-2) ✓
- 3) " 676-13-(1-6) ✓
- 4) " 742-09-1 ✓
- 5) " 134-09-(1-12) ✓
- 6) " 336-12-(1-4) ✓
- 7) " 875-14-(1-2) ✓

88
24.1.24

26.1.24

768
30.1.24

2nd member)

13. Please put up the cases in common view for the Survey Dept. and report to Belur temple in the shape of a letter.

* Z

14. A copy of the Private Secretary's D.O. letter on the subject is sub? as personally directed by the Second Member yesterday.

J. A. 1/2 M?

88
22/2/24

583
22.2.24

15. Draft order appointing a Committee ^{Renovation} is put up, as directed by the Secy.

88 B
1/3/24 1/3/24

A fair draft as appd by Secy

WD 0561 - GPB - 3750 - 1.8.22

Rev. Secy P. Clerk. Fair Draft

NOTE—Contn. sheet

23.2.24

-4/3

Serial
No.

17. Typed draft on 6th -

88 J.B. in app^r
4.3.24 4.3.24 V 3.24.

Rev. secy

18. a draft appointing a Res-
tation Commis^r is put up for
consideration

19. In regard to the revision
of the Tariff of the Belur
Temple, & the grant of lands,
a draft order & a D.F. will be
put up as directed
reg

66.
5.3.24.

Thurman

20. Draft is app^r. Please draw
for D. Comm approval also

D. Comm

6464.

21. 2004

22. when letter will be referred
in a D.F. 4

23. will be issued + 882
put up for perusal

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

146-
7.3.24.

Thurman

7.3.24

7.3.24

7.3.24

7.3.24

7.3.24

7.3.24

7.3.24

7.3.24

7.3.24

7.3.24

Serial
No

7

To the Muzrai Commⁿ, Chief Engineer, D^o of
Arch^t, Researches, D^y Comm^{rs}, of Mysore & Hassan
& Comptroller. No. 1199-204 d. 8.3.24. Approves
of the constitution of a Committee consisting
of the Muzrai Commⁿ, Chief Engineer, D^o of
Arch^t, Researches, & the D. Y. of Mysore & Has-
san to decide what works shd be undertaken
at once & requests them to submit a report
with estimates prepared by the D. P. W. before 15th
May 1924.

24. A D. F. N. is put up as directed in
the previous page.

280
10/3/24

84
10/3/24

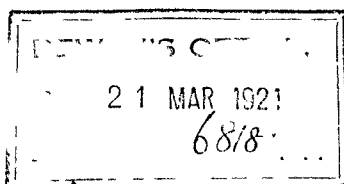
11.3.24

Keyp

Rec. Secy

273
12.3.24

Final order to be made
for submission to His Highness



26. Secy

Keyp 19/3

Papers are not
fully copied

There are all the connected
cases may be also
are not here 1/3

Muz File No. 135 of 1923.
11/11/23Serial
No

7006

The subject regarding the improvement of the Belur Temple was, under the orders of the 2nd Member of Council, split up into 2 separate files. Muz: 135 of 23 deals with the question of renovation of the Belur, Halebid & Somanathapur temples and Muz: 7. 25 of 23, deals with the revision of scale of grant of lands to the Belur Temple. So, the connected correspondence referred to by the Dewan in the preceding page is in Muz 25-23, which is ^{also} subd here with, with a Final Note by the Member.

Muz: File 146-23 containing the Dewan's note referred to, in pages 17 & 18 of the file, is also put up-

subd-

A ~~draft~~ D.S. & is also put up83
27.3.24D
27.3.24.

Dewan)

LJ
27.3

Final Note by the Second Member of Council.

Subject:—

Renovation of the temples at Belur, Halebid and Somanathpur.

In his D.O. communication No.C.29 dated 29th August 1923 to the Dewan, the Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja intimated the desire of His Highness (1) that a serious and systematic attempt should be made to repair and restore, as far as may be possible, the ancient temples at Belur, Halebid and Somanathpur under the advice of the Archaeological Department, (2) that the emoluments of the establishment of the Belur temple should be increased, and (3) that some wet lands should be endowed for the benefit of the temple. The Muzrai Commissioner, who was asked to report in the matter, having, at the instance of the Chief Engineer, suggested the appointment of a Renovation Committee to inspect these temples as also others of Archaeological interest in the State, such as Amritapur, the Jain temples at Sravenabelagola etc., he was requested to submit his proposal in respect of the Belur temple without mixing it up with the general question of dealing with all important temples in the State. In reply he has forwarded a copy of the Chief Engineer's letter furnishing information regarding the repairs for the Belur temple and ^{has} again urged the formation of a Committee, as previously suggested, to consider the question of the improvements required for the temple.

2. It is seen from the Chief Engineer's letter that repairs and improvements at a total cost of Rs.18,696/- (two estimates - one for Rs.13,581/- and another for Rs.5,115/-) were executed to the Belur temple between the years 1910 and 1922. The items of work carried out consisted mainly of repairs to the roof surface

and parapet walls, the opening of windows and the fixing of door shutters, the resetting of old flagging slabs and reflooring with Kadapa slabs and the providing of supports to cracked beams and ^{of} teak wood railings with iron bars to Vahana and stone Mantaps.

3. A further estimate for Rs.23,000/- for additional improvements was got up in 1921 but was not sanctioned for want of funds as the Chief Engineer (Mr. Rice) has, in his letter dated 31st December 1923 mentioned above, expressed it as his opinion that most of the items provided ^{for} in the estimate are unnecessary, that it would be waste of money to undertake further repairs and that the best thing in the circumstances would be to appoint a Committee to decide upon the nature of work to be done in the future.

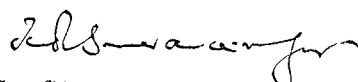
4. An order has accordingly been issued appointing a Committee consisting of the Muzrai Commissioner, the Chief Engineer and the Director of Archaeological Researches (the Deputy Commissioners of Mysore and Hassan Districts being co-opted in respect of works in their Districts) to inspect the institutions and decide what works are required for the temples of Belur, Halebid and Somanathpur to put them in order and what steps should be taken for the preservation of the temples. The Committee has been requested to submit their report together with estimates prepared by the Public Works Department before the 15th May 1924.

5. The other points referred to in the letter of the Private Secretary to His Highness-relating to the revision of the scale of pay of the Belur temple establishment and the grant of some lands to the temple-are being dealt with separately and will be soon submitted for the orders of His Highness.

separately

6. The papers are submitted for the gracious perusal of His Highness.

18th March 1924.


OFFG: SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL.

17/3

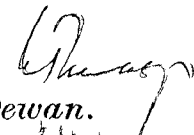
Submitted to His Highness.



*I submit herewith a Final Note by the..Second.....
Member of Council on the subject of....the..Renovation
of the temples at Belur, Halebid and Somanathpur...*

.....
for His Highness' gracious approval. personal


27/3/44


Dewan.
27/3/44

Record of Cases submitted for the Orders
of His Highness the Maharaja

1

Subject.

Renovation of the temples at Belur,
Halebid and Somanathpur.



Order.

~~KRUP~~

2/4/24

Perney

40

1351

per/pa
n pensal

8.4.24

2nd member

OC
4/4

7.4.24

178.
3.4.24

Copy of letter No. C. D.O. 29 dated the 29th August 1923 from the Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore to the Dewan of Mysore.

I am directed to write to you in regard to the temple at Belur, Hassan District. His Highness has paid more than one visit to that famous temple during the last few months, and he could not help noticing the neglected condition into which it has fallen.

His Highness feels strongly that a serious and systematic attempt should be made to repair and restore, as far as may be possible, this building.

These ancient monuments - the temples at Belur, Halebid, and Somanathapur - are part and parcel of the spiritual heritage of the people, and constitute priceless treasures, which it is incumbent upon the Government to preserve and repair in an intelligent, reverent and scientific manner.

His Highness is inclined to think that an annual grant of Rs. 4,000 or so for this purpose would probably suffice to begin with. This amount would enable the Department to employ half a dozen bricklayers and stone masons with a head Maistry. A similar grant for the Halebid temple - both being placed in charge of a Sub-Overseer, under the Executive Engineer - would be money well spent.

His

His Highness will be pleased to know how far it is possible to give effect to his wishes in this matter.

While on this subject, I may mention another matter, which His Highness wishes me to bring to your notice, in connection with the Belur temple, and it is this. The local officers were of opinion that the Brahmin worshippers and other employees get hardly a living wage now, and that it was very necessary that their emoluments should be increased.

They also suggested that some wet lands may be endowed for the benefit of the temple, and I think they said that it was possible to find such lands, belonging to Government, in the Belur Taluk itself.

I am to request that early and suitable action may kindly be taken on all these points, namely:-

1. Systematic repairs and restoration of the temples at Belur and Halebid, under the advice of the Archaeological Department
2. Increased emoluments to the temple establishment, and
3. The grant of some wet lands for the benefit of the temple.

10/12
24/2/24

135-23-1

Letter No. 483/Muz.25-23-5 dated the 29th September 1923
to the Muzrai Commissioner in Mysore, Bangalore.

In continuation of the correspondence ending with this office letter No. 141/Muz.25-23-2 dated the 23rd July 1923 forwarding for an early report copy of a note submitted by the Amildar of the Belur Taluk to the Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja on the subject of certain improvements to the Sri Chenna Kesavaswami temple at Belur, I am directed to state that temples like those at Belur, Halebid and Somanathapur are part and parcel of the spiritual heritage of the people, and constitute priceless treasures and it is necessary to see that these famous and ancient monuments are not allowed to deteriorate and that they are kept in a proper state of preservation.

2. Estimates aggregating Rs. 12,213/- for the repairs of the Belur temple were sanctioned in G.O. No.2035-7/Muz.134-09-6 dated the 12th February 1910 and again an estimate for Rs.5,859/- for urgent repairs of the temple and the Kalachavadi mantap was sanctioned in G.O. No. 2972-5/Muz.676-13-6 dated 5th June 1917. Government wish to know the extent and nature of work that has been carried out in accordance with the sanctioned estimates and the amount of expenditure incurred thereon and whether the estimates are still kept open or whether they are closed. If they are still kept open, it is desirable to have them closed and to have a fresh estimate prepared according to present requirements to put the temple in proper order. A similar estimate for the repairs of the Halebid temple should also be got prepared and sent up. The Chief Engineer may be requested to take the advice of the Archeological Department and have the estimates prepared in consultation with them.

3. I am to request you to report also in consultation with the Chief Engineer whether a special Sub-Overseer may be placed in charge of both the Belur and Halebid temples to carry out the

annual repairs as also the other works that may be sanctioned for them, a suitable annual allotment being made therefor out of the interest earnings on the General Muzrai Fund.

4. With regard to the proposal made by ~~him~~ the Local Officers for the grant of some wet lands for the benefit of the temple to increase its emoluments, it is requested that the Deputy Commissioner may be asked to enquire and report what lands can be made available for the purpose.

5. As regards increase of emoluments to the temple servants I am to observe that it has been brought to notice that the allowances now granted to many of the Archaks and other employees in the temple are inadequate and that they are not getting a living wage. I am to request you therefore to submit proposals for the revision of their scale of pay and to report how far the additional cost can be met by utilizing for the purpose the Tasdik grants &c. of institutions which have fallen into decay and disuse.

6. To sum up, the matters requiring attention as detailed above are:-

1. Systematic repairs and restoration of the temples at Belur and Halebid, under the advice of the Archaeological Department.

2. Increase of emoluments to the Belur temple establishment, &

3. Grant of some wet lands for the benefit of the Belur temple

I am to request you to take prompt and suitable action ~~in~~ in respect of each of the above matters and to submit a very early report thereon for the orders of Government.

7. A monthly report of the progress made in respect of each of the above matters ~~must~~ should also be made to Government till final ~~ex~~ orders of Government are passed about them.

25-23

No.

MYSORE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
CENTRAL OFFICE,

Camp Mysore,

Dated ~~XXXXXX~~ October 1923.

Muz 35-23-2(a)

FROM

K. R. Seshachar, Esq., B.A., B.E., C.E.,
~~XXXXXX~~Chief Engineer of Mysore, ~~Bombay~~

To

Roads & Buildings, Bangalore.

K. Chandy, Esq., B.A.,

Muzrai Commissioner in Mysore,

SIR,

With reference to your No. dated in connection with the renovation and repairs of the Belur and Halebid temples, I have the honour to state that I have inspected the temples at Belur, Halebid and Somanathpur and that I consider it advisable to appoint a committee of Engineers and the Director of ----- Archaeology and his Architectural Assistant to inspect the ---- temples and to submit proposals setting forth definitely the lines on which the further renovation of the temples should be carried out. That there is need for an authoritative committee to examine the question will be evident from the following ---- reasons:-

- (1) The Archaeological Department and others have frequently raised objections to the nature of repairs or renovation carried out.
- (2) The main temples in the case of Belur, Halebid and ---- Somanathpur have been repaired in a fairly satisfactory manner, but certain further works are required to ----- prevent the basement and walls etc., of the temple from settlement which is taking place here and there. Regular annual repairs are also necessary to prevent the roof --- leaking, to point opened up joints, remove vegetation and to support or replace parts that now and then give away. To be brief, the most important portion of the temples --- should be protected and placed above risks of further --- injury as far as possible
- (3) There are a large number of structures in the Prakaram of Belur temple and it is being proposed to repair most of

of them which will be very costly. It should be definitely settled as to which of them are worth preserving.

(4) At Berur, certain works are necessary for conveniences of present day worship and to keep the temple premises tidy and clean. The repairs of these should not be mixed up with renovation and preservation of the ancient architecture. The repairs of such works should be attended to in the usual course from funds at the credit of the temple.

(5) What should be done to the Parakaram of the Somanathpur temple should also be settled as its effective repairs will be very costly.

(6) Now repairs are done by fits and starts and attempts are ^{being} made to repair in an unsatisfactory way all parts of the surrounding --- structures with the result that funds are wasted.

Thus it is necessary to arrange for the renovation on systematic lines. If proposals and estimates are prepared under the supervision of the Committee referred to above, the repair work can be carefully and gradually carried out as funds are made available.

As submission of piecemeal estimates will neither help to renovate the temples properly nor for the efficient preservation, I hope the proposal to appoint a committee will find acceptance ----- considering the very great importance of the temples concerned.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Sd. K. H. Seshachar,

Ag. Chief Engineer of Mysore
Roads and Buildings.

GEN. & REV. SECRETARIAT.
30 OCT 1923
MUZRAI

A.N. 17th 497
No. 17th 201

Dated Camp Mysore, 18th October 1923.

Copy of the above is forwarded with compliments to the
Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, with reference to
his letter No.

K. H. Seshachar

Ag. Chief Engineer of Mysore
Roads and Buildings

A.N. 17th

R. C. 13. urgent

Muzrai
OFFICE OF THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER IN MYSORE.
Camp Mysore,
~~xxxxxxx~~, 20th Octr. 19 23.

6 No. 1138 of 22-23

Exc: one

Muz-25-23-2

135-23 2

From

K. Chandy, Esq., B.A.,

& Muzrai

Revenue Commissioner in Mysore.

GEN. & REV. SECRETARY.
30 OCT 1923
MUZRAI

2. 498

To

The Secretary to the Government of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore,
Revenue Department.

SIR,

With reference to correspondence ending with your letter No.483/Muz. 25-23.5 dated 29th September 1923, regarding the various requirements of the Sri Chennakesavaaswami Temple at Belur, I have the honour to forward herewith copy of letter No.C.200 dated 18th October 1923 from the Chief Engineer of Mysore, Roads and Buildings, suggesting the appointment of a Committee of Engineers and the Director of Archaeological Researches and his Architectural Assistant to inspect the Temples and to submit proposals setting forth definitely the lines on which the further renovation of the temples at Belur, Halebid and Somanathapur should be carried out.

2. I am in agreement with the Chief Engineer's proposal and would add to the list, also the very fine temple at ~~Sauripapur~~ ^{at the Tari-dere} Somanathapur and the Jain Temples at Sravanbelagola. I beg accordingly to recommend the appointment of a "Renovation Committee". The Industrial Chemist may advantageously be included in the Committee as his advice in the selection of images for preservation etc., about which he has been conducting elaborate experiments will be of very great help. If the proposal for the appointment of a

See

From

K. Chandy Esq., B.A.,
Muzrai Commissioner in
Mysore.

To

The Secretary to the Govern-
ment of H.H. the Maharaja
of Mysore, Revenue Depart-
ment.

Dated 20th September 1923.

Despatched.

Received.

No.

Enclosure.

Subject.

Re the various requirements
of the Sri Chennakesavaswami
Temple at Belur.

- 2 -

Committee meets with the approval of Government, the personnel of such a Committee will be submitted for sanction in consultation with the Chief Engineer for Roads and Buildings.

I have the honour to be,

S i r,

Your most obedient servant,



Muzrai Commissioner.



BR.

Letter No.C.200 dated Camp Mysore, 18th October 1923 from the Chief Engineer of Mysore, Roads and Buildings, to the Muzrai Commissioner in Mysore,

With reference to your No. — dated in connection with the renovation and repairs of the Belur and Halebid temples, I have the honour to state that I have inspected the temples at Belur, Halebid and Somanathapur and that I consider it advisable to appointment a committee of Engineers and the Director of Archaeology and his Architectural Assistant to inspect the temples and to submit proposals setting forth definitely the lines on which the further renovation of the temples should be carried out. That there is need for an authoritative committee to examine the question will be evident from the following reasons:--

(1) The Archaeological Department and others have frequently raised objections to the nature of repairs or renovation carried out.

(2) The main temples in the case of Belur, Halebid and Somanathpur have been repaired in a fairly satisfactory manner, but certain further works are required to prevent the basement and walls etc., of the temple from settlement which is taking place here and there. Regular annual repairs are also necessary to prevent the roof leaking, to point opened up joints, remove vegetation and to support or replace parts that now and then give way. To be brief, the most important portion of the temples should be protected and placed above risks of further injury as far as possible.

(3) There are a large number of structures in the Prakaram of Belur temple and it is being proposed to repair most of them which will be very costly. It should be definitely settled as to which of them are worth preserving.

(4) At Belur, certain works are necessary for conveniences of present day worship and to keep the temple premises tidy and clean. The repairs of these should not be mixed up with renovation and preservation of the ancient architecture. The repairs of such

works should be attended to in the usual course from funds at the credit of the temple.

(5) What should be done to the Prakaram of the Somanathpur temple should also be settled, as its effective repairs will be very costly.

(6) Now repairs are done by fits and starts and attempts are being made to repair in an unsatisfactory way all parts of the surrounding structures with the result that funds are wasted.

Thus it is necessary to arrange for the renovation on systematic lines. If proposals and estimates are prepared under the supervision of the Committee referred to above, the repair work can be carefully and gradually carried out as funds are made available.

As submission of piecemeal estimates will neither help to renovate the temples properly nor for their efficient preservation I hope the proposal to appoint a committee will find acceptance considering the very great importance of the temples concerned.

" C o p y "

K. G. Gandy

Revenue Commissioner.

shy

BR.

No C. 234

MYSORE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,

CENTRAL OFFICE,

Camp Mysore, 24th Oct. 1923.

~~Dated Mysore~~

Muz 35-23-3(a)

FROM

K. R. Seshachar, Esq., B.A., B.E., C.E.,
~~XXXXXX~~

As. Chief Engineer of Mysore, ~~Bangalore~~

Roads and Buildings.

TO

K. Chandy, Esq., B.A.,

Muzrai Commissioner in Mysore,

B a n g a l o r e.

REV. SECY,
29 OCT '23

MUZRAI

D. 478

SIR,

Referring to this office letter No.C.200 dated the 18th October 1923, I have the honour to state that, if the proposal suggested therein, regarding the formation of a Committee to consider the question of renovation of the Belur and Halebid temples, meets with approval, the Vice-Chancellor of the ----- Mysore University may also be appointed a member of the ----- Committee.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Sd. K. R. Seshachar,
Ag. Chief Engineer of Mysore
Roads and Buildings.

A.M. 23rd.

Dated Camp Mysore, 24th October 1923.

No. C. 235

Copy of the above is forwarded, with compliments, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, for information, with reference to this office letter No.C.201 dated the 16th October 1923.

K. R. Seshachar

Ag. Chief Engineer of Mysore
Roads and Buildings.

A.M. 23rd.

OFFICE OF THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER
IN MYSORE.

6 No 1138 of 22-23

Bangalore.....26th October 1923...
Camp Mysore,

Euc. one
7

~~Muz 25-23-8~~

FROM

K. Chandy, Esq., B.A.,
& Muzrai
Revenue Commissioner in Mysore,

135-20-3
22/10/23



The Secretary to the Government of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore,
Department
R E V E N U E

SIR,

In continuation of this office letter No.C.1138/22-23 dated 20th October 1923, I have the honour to forward herewith copy of letter No.C.234 dated 24th October 1923 received from the Chief Engineer for Roads and Buildings suggesting that the Vice Chancellor of the Mysore University may be appointed a Member of the Committee for the Renovation of the Belur and other temples and to state that as already intimated the personnel of the Committee may be finally settled after the proposal to appoint a Committee meets with the approval of Government.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

K. Chandy

Muzrai Commissioner.

AK

R. C. 4.

FROM

K. Chandy, Esq., B.A.,
& u_rai
Revenue Commissioner in Mysore.

TO

The Secretary to the Government of
H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore,
Revenue Department

Dated 26th October 1923.

Despatched

Received

General No.

Enclosure No.

S U B J E C T.

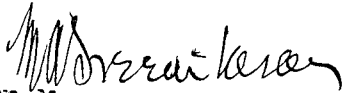
Re the formation of a Committee to consider the question of Renovation of the Belur and Halebid temples.

Letter No.C.234 dated Camp Mysore, 24th October 1923 from the
Chief Engineer of Mysore, Roads and Buildings, to the Muzrai Commis-
sioner in Mysore, Bangalore.

Referring to this office letter No.C.200 dated the 18th October
1923, I have the honour to state that, if the proposal suggested there-
in, regarding the formation of a Committee to consider the question
of Renovation of the Belur and Halebid temples, meets with approval,
the Vice Chancellor of the Mysore University may also be appointed
a member of the Committee.

" C o p y "

BR.


For Muzrai Commissioner.


Muz 4]

SUBJECT.....

Diary No. of letter replied to 498
477

Muzrai Secretariat

(Muz)
the 192

Section *Muz*

File No. 135-23

Serial No. 4

No. 697

Date of issue 16.1.23

Signed by M. T. Ramanya

To

The Muz: Comm. in *charge*,
To *see*.

Sir,

With reference to the correspondence ending with your letters no. C. 1138 of 22-23 & 20-10-23 and 26-10-23 on the subject of the appointment of a *Commission* Committee for ~~the~~ ^{the} inspection, ~~of~~ and setting forth definitely ^{the} lines on which the further renovation, of the temples at

over.

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Belur, Halebid & Somanathpur
 should be carried out, I am
 directed to state that this is a
 general question, as the Committee
 is expected to deal not only
 with the Belur & Halebid temples,
^{also with}
 but other temples such as
 Somanathpur etc, which are
 of architectural and archa^{logical}
 interest and should be dealt
 with ~~separately~~ ^{separately} and subd. for
 orders and not mixed up with
 the present question of repairs
 to the Belur temple. In regard
 to ~~this subject~~ ^{this subject} I am to request that
 to ~~which~~ ^{which} information may be
 furnished, without delay, as
 to the works to be now carried
 out in accordance with the
 estimates already sanctioned

List of enclosures.

I have etc

WJ

Secretary

Rev: Depy

WD 0563-EPB-2,500-27 7-22

Copied by

Examined by

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8.11.23

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8/11/23

No.B. 3066

Mysore Public Works Department,
Central Office,
Roads and Buildings,
Dated Camp.Mysore, 28th November 1923.

Sl.no. 5

From

H. D. Rize, Esq.,
Chief Engineer of Mysore,
Public Works Department,
Roads and Buildings, Bangalore.

To

K. Chandy, Esq., B.A.,
Muzrai Commissioner in Mysore,
B a n g a l o r e.

Sir,

With reference to correspondence ending with this office letter No.C.234 dated the 24th October 1923 on the subject of - certain improvements to the Sri Channakesavaswami Temple at --- Belur, I have the honour to forward, for your information and - further necessary action, the accompanying copy of letter No.213 dated the 19th November 1923 received from the Executive ----- Engineer, Hassan Division, offering his remarks on the subject-

2. An estimate amounting to Rs 1,730/- for urgent repairs --- needed to the temple, received from the Executive Engineer, is herewith forwarded. I also request to be informed what orders have been passed on the proposal for the appointment of a ----- Committee by Mr.K.R.Seshachar referred to in this office No. dated

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

H. D. Rize,

Chief Engineer of Mysore,
Roads and Buildings.

T.R.S./28-11/2.

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10.2.36 (17) dated 30.12.35, the 2nd No other 1935.

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 10.2.36 (17) dated 30.12.35, the 2nd No other 1935.

ST
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AD Rice

Colonel in Chief of the
 10.2.36 (17) dated 30.12.35, the 2nd No other 1935.

10.2.36 (17) dated 30.12.35, the 2nd No other 1935.

Dr. 677

Subd.

A copy of the letter addressed by the Ch. Engrs to the M.C. has been sent to Govt for information - The M.C. has been requested to inform what works have to be carried out to the Belur temples in accordance with the estimates already sanctioned and his reply is still due - In the present letter the Ch. Engrs has sent to the M.C. an estimate for Rs 1730/- for urgent repairs to the temple. As no action can be taken on this refce, the Mys: Commr's reply will be awaited.

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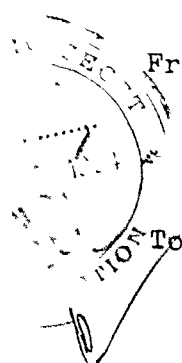
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Office of the Muzrai Commissioner in Mysore,

Bangalore, Dated 4th January 1924.

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Muz 135-23-6



From

K. Chandy, Esq., B.A.,

Muzrai Commissioner in Mysore.

To

A. V. Anantaraman, Esq., B.A.,

Secretary to Government of His Highness the Maharaja of
Mysore, Revenue Department.

S I R,

With reference to your letter No. 697/M.F. 135-23-4 dated 16th November 1923, regarding the repairs to the Belur temple, I have the honour to forward herewith copy of letter No. B. 3689 dated 31st December 1923 from the Chief Engineer for Roads and Buildings, stating that there is considerable exaggeration in the reports that the temples at Belur, Halebid and Somnathapur, are deteriorating rapidly for want of timely repairs, that from a rough description of the works given by the Executive Engineer last week he had come to the conclusion that the proposed works were unnecessary and that it would be waste of money to spend Rs. 23,000/- or more on the class of work suggested and recommending the appointment of a committee to decide upon the nature of work that is to be done in the future.

I have already furnished my opinion about the desirability of appointing a committee and I beg again to support the suggestion made by the present Chief Engineer for Roads and Buildings (Mr. H. D. Rice) for the appointment of a Renovation Committee.

2. As regards the ^mformation called for in para 2 of your letter No. 483/M.F. 25-23-5 dated 29th September 1923, I enclose herein a copy of letter No. 213 dated 19th November 1923 from the Executive Engineer, Hassan Division, to the Chief Engineer of Mysore, Roads and buildings, from which it will be seen that the estimates sanctioned in G.O. Nos. 2035-7 M.F. 134-09-6 dated 12th February 1910

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in the linked
file.

and 2972-5 M.F.676-13-6 dated 5th June 1917 were fully worked out and closed in June 1921 and December 1922 with a total cost of Rs.13,581/- and Rs.5115/- respectively. The items of work done and those that were left out for future execution are therein noted with sufficient detail.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,


J. S. Muzrai
Muzrai Commissioner.

M.A.N.

Letter No.B.3689 dated 31st December 1923 from the Chief Engineer of Mysore, Public Works Department, Roads and Buildings to the Muzrai Commissioner in Mysore.

With reference to your G.No.1138 dated 8th December 1923 in regard repairs to the Sri Chennakesavaswami Temple at Belur, I have the honour to reply as follows:==

The Executive Engineer is engaged in preparing an estimate embodying all the items decided upon by his predecessor and the Archaeological Assistant. From a rough description of the works given by the present Executive Engineer on the spot last week, I formed the opinion that most of the proposed works were unnecessary and that it would be waste of money to spend Rs.23,000/- or more on the class of work suggested. The beauty of these ancient structures will be rapidly lost if such works are permitted to be carried out. I am of opinion that there is considerable exaggeration in the reports that the temples at Belur, Halibid and Somnathpur are deteriorating rapidly for want of timely repairs.

I certainly think that the wisest step, under the circumstances is, to appoint a Committee to decide upon the nature of work that is to be done in the future.

As regards the preliminary estimate amounting to Rs.1,730/- for "urgent repairs" submitted to you with my No.B.3066 dated 30th November 1923 I note that practically the whole of this sum is on account of two items of work - viz.,

- (1) Changing the slopes of the spouts that project out of the flat roof of all the structures.
- (2) Supporting with jungle wood pillars and iron bands the cracked beams in certain structures.

As regards the first item, I was not permitted inside the temples so could not examine the traces of the leaks referred to. From what I could see from outside I should say there is no need to interfere with the spouts unless and until some responsible person certifies to the fact that the spouts are not functioning properly- by going inside the temples while it is actually raining.

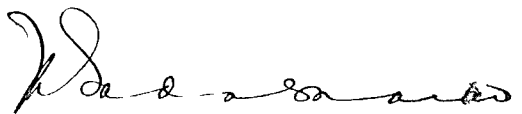
As regards the second item, the report says that the cracks in the beams have appeared within the past 18 months. This was written

on false information received. One of the Temple officials told me they had been in their present state to his certain knowledge for the past 40 years! Probably if an enquiry had been made 40 years ago the same story would have been told then. In any case to use jungle wood supports and iron clamps in such places would be an act of vandalism. Perhaps some old carved pillars from some other disused edifice could be made available.

In all such questions the Public Works Department officers are not competent to give a final decision for the purpose of preparing an estimate and it is necessary to appoint a Committee to decide the nature of all future restoration work.

I have not seen Halibid and Somnathpur recently but from my knowledge of them, I should say there is no hurry to effect wholesale repairs and that the whole question should be carefully discussed by a few competent officers with a view to deciding upon the future policy to be adopted in the matter of preserving these ancient structures.

" C O P Y "


Muzrai Commissioner.
5/1/24

Letter No.213 dated 19th November 1923, from the Executive Engineer
Massan Division, to the Chief Engineer of Mysore, Roads and Buildings,
Bangalore.

Subject: ^{ject}== Sri Chennakesavaswami Temple at Belur.
=====

With reference to your No.B.1945 dated 12th October 1923
forwarding copy of Revenue Secretary's letter No.483/Muz.25-23-5
dated 29th September 1923 to the Muzrai Commissioner in Mysore and
calling for a report on paras 2 and 3 of the above reference and
also in continuation of my office No.198 dated 12/13th October 1923
submitting for sanction an emergent repair estimate for the urgent
works required to be done to the Sri Chennakesavaswami temple at
Belur, I have the honour to report as under:==

2. An estimate for the complete renovation of Sri Chennakesava
swamy temple at Belur seems to have been first sanctioned for Rs.12,21
in Government Order No.2035-7/Muz.134-09-6 dated 12th February 1910.
During execution of the works provided for in this estimate, some
deviations and alterations found very necessary then for the renovatio
appear to have been carried out and a revised estimate for Rs.13,384/-
was sanctioned in September 1915(Vide Southern Circle Superintending
Engineer's No.7958 dated 27-9-1915). Under this estimate the important
repair works carried out are-

- (1) Repairs of roof surface and parapet and spouts of kitchen
and stores, Ramadevara Sannidhi, Yagasala, Narasimhadevara
Sannidhi, Alwar Sannidhi, Jeoyar Sannidhi, Kappechennigaroya
Sannidhi, Ammanavara Sannidhi, Vahana Mantapam, Veeranarayana
Sannidhi, Andal Sannidhi, Desikar Sannidhi, Anjaneya Sannidhi,
Naganayakan Mantapam, Kalyana Mantap, Anebagalu, Pial to South
of Anebagalu, and main temple.
- (2) Insertion of windows in kitchen and stores, Yagasala and
Ammanavara Sannidhi and a new door to Alwar Sannidhi.
- (3) Removing and resetting of old flagging slabs in kitchen
and stores, Ammanavara Sannidhi, Nagarkhar Mantap and below
gopuram.
- (4) Reflooring of portions with Kadappa slabs in Alwar
Sannidhi, Desikar Sannidhi, Bashyakar Sannidhi, Anjaneya
Sannidhi and Naganayakan Mantap.
- (5) Rebuilding of portion of damaged compound wall, and (6)
Repairs to the main Gopuram.

All works except the roofing of Nagarkhana etc, were carried out
and the estimate closed in June 1921 with a total expenditure of
Rs.13,581/-.

3. Subsequently again as the doors and doorways deteriorated and certain beams cracked and portions of all the temples got damaged two estimates for Rs.2,494/- and Rs.11,250/- for improving Sri Chennakesavaswami temple and the stone mantap(outside) so as to adopt it for a Musafirkhana were sent to the Chief Engineer for sanction in February 1914 and May 1915. Chief Engineer thereon in consultation with Government informed in his No.5155 dated 27th May 1916 that Government were not then prepared to provide for so much of expenditure and requested that the estimates sent up may be so modified as to limit the expenditure to Rs.6,000/- and submitted for sanction. Accordingly, a modified estimate for Rs.6,586/- was sent up from this Division to the Superintending Engineer, Northern Circle in this office No.166 dated 1-3-1917. This estimate was corrected to Rs.5,869/- in Chief Engineer's office and was sanctioned by Government in G.O.No.2972-5/Muz 676-13-6 dated 5th June 1917. This sanction was communicated to this office(vide Northern Circle Superintending Engineer's No.4850 dated 30-6-1917). This estimate was again revised for Rs.6,237/- as per accepted tender and also as per certain alterations and omissions that had to be attended to during actual execution of repair works of such an Architectural building and was submitted to Superintending Engineer, Northern Circle, with my office No.142 dated 17-2-1921. It was received sanctioned from the Superintending Engineer, Western Circle vide his No.490 E.H/38.J-21 dated 5/7-4-1921 correcting the estimate amount to Rs.5,852/-. Under this estimate door shutters were fixed to kitchen, Anebagalu, Narasimhar Sannidhi, Appachenrigaroya Sannidhi, and Ammanavara Sannidhi, flooring with Kadappa slabs was newly done to portions not attended to in the previous estimate of Alwar Sannidhi. Anjaneyaswami temple and the stone mantap outside, resetting old flagging was done in Ammanavara Sannidhi Anebagalu and Alwar Sannidhi teak wood railing with iron bars was provided for the Vahan Mantap and the stone mantap outside, the leaky portions of the roof were repaired well in Andalammanavara Sannidhi pial east of granery and the stone mantap outside, and lastly supports were provided to cracked beams in some of the temples. All the above works were carried out and the estimate was closed in December 1922 with a total expenditure of Rs.5,115/-. The only works which were provided for in the original sanctioned estimate for Rs.5,869/- but which

were left out during execution for reasons explained in the report accompanying the revised estimate for same sent up to Superintending Engineer, Western Circle, with my No.142 dated 17-2-1921 are-

1. Iron railing and a gate way in front of Garbhagudi of main temple.
2. Repairs to stone mantap or Navaratre Mantapam.
3. Repairs to Gopuram.
4. Repairs to Kalyani.

These were omitted then as the provision made for them required extensive revision but were proposed to be included in the larger conservation which was then under preparation as per notes drawn on the joint inspection of the Archaeological Assistant and the Executive Engineer.

4. Such a complete estimate for the thorough renovation of the temples was sent up for Rs.23,000/- and sent up for sanction of Government in January 1922. As I have already pointed out in the report accompanying the emergent ^{repair} estimate submitted to you in my No. 198 dated 12/13th October 1923, that Government in view of the financial stringency at the time ordered in their order No.5849/Muz.201-20-10 dated 20th April 1922 that the estimate may lie over for a year. But again as the portions of the temples were reported to be deteriorating fast Government again ordered in letter No.2217/Muz 300-22-2 dated 7th February 1923 that only such of the items from the estimate of Rs.23,000/- as required most urgent attention should be selected and an emergent repair estimate be sent up for sanction. Accordingly, an estimate was framed for Rs.10,000/- and was sent up to you in May 1923. On inspection of the temples in July 1923 you were pleased to give oral instructions at the spot and ordered in your No.B.859 dated 15th August 1923 to submit two estimates one for every emergent repairs and the other for comprehensive estimate for complete restoration of the temples. The emergent repair estimate called for has been submitted to you with my No.198 dated 12/13th October 1923. The other estimate which has to include all items left out in the emergent repair estimate submitted in October and in May 1923 and also all items provided for in the larger estimate for Rs.23,000/- is under preparation in my office. It will be completed and submitted for sanction.

Proceedings of the Government of H. H.
the Maharaja of Mysore.

Read.-

Correspondence ending with letter No. C.1138 of 22-23 dated 7-1-24 from the Muzrai Commissioner in Mysore forwarding a copy of letter No. B.3689 dated 31-12-23 from the Chief Engineer for Roads and Buildings, stating that there is considerable exaggeration in the reports that the temples at Belur, Halebid and Somanathapur are deteriorating rapidly for want of timely repairs, that ~~from a rough description of the works given by the Executive Engineer~~, he was of opinion that the proposed works for Belur temple at a cost of Rs. 23,000/- or more ~~are~~ unnecessary and recommending the appointment of a Committee to decide upon the nature of work that ^{is} to be done to these three temples ~~in the future~~ ^{at present}.

Order No. 1199-204 dated 8.3.24
Muz-135-23-7

The temples at Belur, Halebid and Somanathapur are old temples of great architectural value, and Govt. consider it very important that they ~~were~~ should be maintained in a state of good repair. It is important that all work of repair or restoration should be carried out in a careful manner so as to avoid interference with the general appearance or effect of the building. For this purpose Govt. consider that the suggestion made by the Chief Engineer for Roads

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and Buildings and endorsed by the Muzrai Commissioner to appoint a Committee ^{to determine the works that should} is suitable ^{now carried out} and are accordingly pleased to constitute a ^{these temples} Committee consisting of the following Officers:

1. The Muzrai Commissioner, who will be the Convenor.
2. The Chief Engineer.
3. The Director of Archaeological Researches
4. The Deputy Commissioner of the District to be co-opted in respect of the temples in his District.

2. The Committee will inspect these temples and decide what works should be undertaken at once to put them in order and what steps should be taken for their preservation; ^{The will} ~~and~~ submit ~~to~~ ^a report together with estimates prepared by the D.P.W. in accordance with the views of the Committee. The report and the estimates in question should be submitted so as to reach Government before the 15th of May 1924.

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 Revenue Secretary.

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To

The Muzrai Commissioner.
 The Ch. Engr. of Mysore.
 The Director of Archaeological Researches.
 The Deputy Commissioners of Mysore and
 Hassan Districts.
" Campbell

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Proceedings of the Government of Mysore
of Mysore.

Re :-

Correspondence ending with letter No. 3. 113 of 17th January 1924 from the Muzrai Commissioner in Mysore to the Government of letter No. M. 3089 dated 31st December 1923 from the Muzrai Commissioner, Roads and Buildings, stating that there is no other work to be done on the reports that the temples at Belur, Halebidu and Chennarayana are deteriorating rapidly for want of timely repairs, and that the proposed works for Belur temple to the cost of Rs. 5,000 are more or less unnecessary and recommending that the Government should decide upon the nature of the work that should be done on the temples at present.

Order No. 1199-204 / Mees 135-23-7
Dated, Bangalore the 8th April 1924.

The temples at Belur, Halebidu and Chennarayana are of great architectural value and Government should take steps to ensure that they should be maintained in a state of repair. It is suggested that all works of repair or restoration should be carried out in a careful manner so as to avoid interference with the architectural effect of the building. For this purpose, Government have accepted the suggestion made by the Chief Engineer for Roads and Buildings and endorsed by the Muzrai Commissioner to carry out the following works that should be now carried out to the extent of Rs. 5,000 and are accordingly directed to constitute a committee of the following officers:-

- (1) The Muzrai Commissioner
- (2) The Chief Engineer.
- (3) The Director of Archaeology
- (4) The Deputy Commissioner of the District.

2. The Committee will meet the Government.

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be undertaken at once to put them in a position where they should be taken for their preservation. They will submit a report to Government with estimates prepared by the Department of Works and in accordance with the views of the Committee. The report on the situation in question shall be submitted to the Government for consideration in 1924.

Handwritten signature
For Secretary to Government,
82 Revenue Department.

To

The Muzrai Commissioner in Mysore.

" Chief Engineer of Mysore.

" Director of Archaeological Researches.

" Deputy Commissioners of Mysore and Hassan Districts.

" *Comptroller*

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[Faint handwritten notes and markings are visible across the page.]

11/11/1911

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G. R. S. III.2]

Muzrai Secretariat	Muz. File No.	of 192 .
Serial No.		

NOTE—Contn. sheet